

From: Brian {Hamilton Kelly}
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am given to understand that, under the Tunney Act, the DoJ will take note of commentary upon this settlement from third parties.

Although not a citizen of the US, I would like to record that this apparent whitewash totally negates the excellent work that has been put into exposing the monopolistic practices of Microsoft, and am astounded that it has been permitted. Unless the decision is reversed, and a REAL penalty imposed upon Microsoft, their monopolistic position will become even more firmly established. This is THE LAST CHANCE to stop this.

I am an ardent user of IBM's OS/2 operating system; a piece of software that was consistently undermined and ruined through Microsoft's unethical practices (not the least of which was their overcharging software developers for compilers and other software tools unless they undertook to develop purely for Windows, even though virtually the same source code could have been compiled to run properly under OS/2).

OS/2 was (and still is) infinitely superior to Windows of any flavour; yet IBM have virtually allowed it to die, because they have recognized they even they cannot afford to compete. I am pleased that Serenity Systems International have negotiated a licensing scheme by which they are selling updated (and very usable) versions of OS/2 under their eComStation branding, but this does depend upon IBM continuing to develop and improve OS/2 --- something which they might well decide to forget altogether if Microsoft are allowed to get away with their illegal activities.

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"We have gone from a world of concentrated knowledge and wisdom to one of distributed ignorance. And we know and understand less while being increasingly capable." Prof. Peter Cochrane, formerly of BT Labs